between the Governments of India and the United States regarding the surrender of persons to international tribunals, signed on 26 December 2002 in Delhi, the two Governments have agreed not to surrender or transfer each other's citizens, including armed forces personnel, to an international tribunal, unless otherwise obligated to do so by an international agreement to which both India and the United States are parties, and without the express content of the other Government.

UN Weapons Inspectors' report on Iraq

1624. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:
SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief UN Weapons Inspector, while presenting his report to the Security Council, observed that the inspections conducted in Iraq had found no weapons of mass destruction in her possession;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) the stand proposed to be taken by Government with regard to the US stand that war was the only measure to force Iraq to disarm; and

(d) whether India would like to play the role of a mediator for preventing war and ensuring peace and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): (a) The UN Weapons Inspectors (UNMOVIC & IAEA) have submitted two reports to the Security Council on January 27 and February 14, 2003. The Inspectors have opined that so far there is conclusive evidence concerning the presence of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. Their inspections are continuing in accordance with UNSC Resolution 1441.

(b) to (d) India is vitally interested in the peace and prosperity of the Gulf region and has therefore consistently called for the resolution of the crisis relating to Iraq through political and diplomatic means under the auspices of the UN. India recognised the validity of the unanimous decision of the United Nations Security Council in its Resolution 1441 which provides for the disarmament of Iraq. Iraq has to faithfully comply with

the provisions of relevant UN Security Council Resolutions. The work of the inspectors is continuing in Iraq. The Security Council should decide on what further action needs to be taken. All concerned should fully cooperate in finding a peaceful resolution to the issue.

Summit of South and South East Asian Countries

1625. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Myanmar has proposed a summit of select South and South East Asian Countries for Inter-State co-operation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Bilateral agreements with Singapore

1626. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the bilateral agreements made by the Singapore President during his recent visit to India especially in forging closer economic relations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): No bilateral agreements were signed during the visit of Mr. S.R. Nathan, President of the republic of Singapore, during his visit to India from 3-11 January 2003.

Nuclear weapons in Pakistan

†1627. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is possibility of nuclear weapons falling into the hands of Pakistani terrorists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.